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## Dictaphun

Dicta Editorial Board

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# DICTA

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## DICTAPHUN

### Well Deserved Tributes

Dicta for August, 1944, had no sooner hit the street than numerous old admirers, and a select crop of new ones, hastened to express gratitude and to submit contributions. While keenly aware of the propriety of these compliments, and fully conscious that we are deserving of them, we are thankful. Thankful, at least, for the contributions: for we are always appreciative of anything—anytime, anywhere, any place—that relieves us of labor, however slight.

#### Sample encomiums:

"I have for several years been awaiting your resurrection \* \* \*"

"I am glad to see that DICTAPHUN is back with us and I am sure it will live up to its high standard of insanity, which it set during its previous life."

"I consider the revival of DICTAPHUN as unpatriotic, as it will require me to save copies of Dicta whereas I formerly contributed them to the waste paper drive."

"Your department will bring Dicta down to the low level I enjoyed so much in other years."

"Please cancel my subscription to Dicta and remove my name from the membership rolls of the association. There is a limit, and you have gone beyond it."

### Outstanding Contribution of the Month

The plastic palm is hereby awarded to Frank Swancara, ornament of the Denver Bar, and saviour of The Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Co., who submits, on engraved stationery, some advance sheets of his own Law Dictionary. He and DICTAPHUN (515 Midland Savings Bldg., Denver 2, Colorado) will welcome additions to this monumental work.

*From Swancara's Non-alphabetical Law Dictionary*

**EMINENT.** An adjective applied by a publisher to a judge who has given praise for the publication in exchange for a free copy of the book.

**DEMURRER.** Under the old practice, a paper filed by the attorney for the defendant with intent to put the case into a coma, thus postponing the day of judgment. It also served as notice that said attorney was not yet ready to work on the case with respect to merits, and would accomplish nothing for his client if he made the attempt.

**OPINION.** A paper mailed by the clerk of the court to counsel, said document being the brief of the successful attorney, but so garbled as to give the impression the judge himself is the author and has made some independent investigation of the questions decided.

**TAKING UNDER ADVISEMENT.** A delaying tactic employed by judges who fear that a prompt rendition of judgment would be taken as a badge of prejudice and offend a lawyer expected to have some influence in the next election.

**SHYSTER.** A term applied by a corporation lawyer to his opponent when the former, depending on evidence of hired detectives, lost the case to the latter, who won on the testimony of the client himself.

**CROOKED LAWYER.** A member of the bar who learns, and appropriately applies, all the procedural rules devised by bar committees and naively adopted by the courts.

**READING THE WILL.** An act formerly performed by the attorney for the testator in reading the will to persons who expected to be named therein. Modern: Act of the attorney for the executor, performed in solitude, for the purpose of building hopes regarding the size of the attorney's fee.

*A Warning to Old Judge Joe Neff*

Judge Neff is an old friend of ours, and especially valuable now, so we pass this warning on to him. *Don't fine any of these employees, Judge, or you will have the Wagner Act on your neck.*

Article 19 of a contract, now in effect, covering relations between certain employers and employees right here in the Queen City of the Plains:

**"TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.** Any driver arrested for violating a traffic ordinance, when ordered to do so by his employer, shall not be required to pay fines."